

Come to Student Success Seminars for a chance to win a Kindle!

Providing additional resources for students to be successful is important to the mission of the SOAR Institute. As a result, Student Success Seminars are offered each Tuesday and Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. in room 2414 and are available to all currently enrolled Shelton State students. Chrishan Emonina, Tutor Supervisor, conducts the seminars which include a “take away” sheet for reference.

A different topic is featured each month with multiple sessions offered, as outlined below. During the last week of September and October, the Career Center will present career-related topics. These sessions will be held in the Career Center. Each time students attend a seminar, their names will be entered into a drawing for a **free Kindle** to be given away at the end of November.

In September, “**The Student Survival Kit**” presentations include note taking & study tips, managing time, understanding plagiarism, and communicating with faculty and staff. On September 25 and 26, the Career Center topic will be “**Career Planning and Management.**” The October sessions will stress how to “**Find Your Balance.**” Handling test anxiety and stress management will be the focus in these seminars. On October 30 and 31, the career focus will be on “**Stress Free Job Tips for Holiday Employment.**” In November, “**Finish Strong**” will portray understanding and conquering procrastination and using better time management.

Know what it takes to be Successful

- ☐ Attend class regularly.
- ☐ Complete all assignments by the due date.
- ☐ Participate fully in class.
- ☐ Schedule regular outside study time.
- ☐ Use college survival skills information.
- ☐ Participate in college life outside class.
- ☐ Request help when needed.

What Works: Research-Based Best Practices in Developmental Education by Hunter R. Boylan
— National Center for Developmental Education

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 1 – STUDENT
SUCCESS SEMINARS

PAGE 1 – TIPS FOR
SUCCESS

PAGE 2 – STAFF NEWS

PAGE 2 – ALADE
CONFERENCE

PAGE 3 – PERSONNEL
SPOTLIGHT



SHELTON STATE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SOAR Institute Staff News

- Welcome SOAR Institute new staff members: Chrishan Emonina, Tutor Supervisor; Renee' Marks, Office Associate; and Navigators: Madison Humann, Tim Law, and Alicia Walker.
- Annette Cook, Director of the SOAR Institute, is one of forty-one educators from across the nation to receive the 2012 Developmental Education Specialist Certification from Kellogg Institute for the Training and Certification of Developmental Educators. Cook was awarded certification as a result of her participation in the training program and completion of an implementation project at Shelton State Community College. The certification as "Developmental Education Specialist" is awarded through the Kellogg Institute, in conjunction with Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

SOAR PERSONNEL

ANNETTE COOK

VERONICA CROSS

CHRISHAN EMONINA

SOPHIA EVERETT

KATHRYN GIDLEY

MADISON HUMANN

TIM LAW

RENEE' MARKS

LATONYA ROBINSON

JAN ROGERS

ALICIA WALKER

Developmental Education helps "underprepared students prepare, prepared students advance, and advanced students excel."

Motto of the National Association for Development Education

Alabama Association for Developmental Education 2012 Conference

Friday, November 2, 2012

"Accepting the Challenge"

Hosted by Shelton State Community College

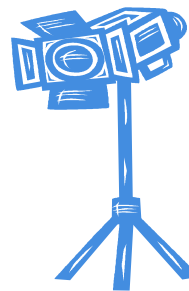
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Hunter R. Boylan

We want to hear about what's working in your developmental classes. Visit www.alade.net to submit a presentation proposal and for registration information. Contact Annette Cook or Kathryn Gidley for more details.



ALADE

The mission of the SOAR Institute of Shelton State Community College is to provide dedicated support to enhance the success of underprepared students.



Personnel Spotlight

A Conversation with LaTonya Robinson

Each edition of *SOARing* will feature one SOAR staff member. This edition spotlights one of our Navigators, LaTonya Robinson.

What prompted you to apply for this position at Shelton State? “The opportunity to serve students on a larger scale is what prompted me to apply for the position of SOAR Navigator. I really enjoy working with students one on one and getting to know them.”

Where did you work before coming to Shelton State? “Before working at Shelton State, I worked at Shoney’s Inn as a front desk clerk. It was very busy and fun during football season. At the same time, I worked at PARA in the after-school program. I worked part-time at Shelton in the Wellness Center, and I fell in love with working in the two year college system. My first full-time position at Shelton was in the Financial Aid Office. After that, I worked in the Office of Disability Services and in International Student Admissions before coming to work in the SOAR Institute. In the Office of Disability Services, I assisted students with disabilities by providing academic accommodations that would allow them to have adequate access to the educational resources. I also worked in International Student Admissions, assisting students coming from other countries to pursue their academic careers at Shelton State. In this position I helped students with admissions, advising, and immigration-related issues.”

Where did you attend college? What degrees have you earned? “I attended Wallace State Community in Hanceville, where I received an associate degree in General Studies. After that I attended the University of Alabama, where I received a bachelor’s degree in general health science. Later, I attended the University of West Alabama where I received a master’s in physical education.”

Tell us where you grew up and what led you to pursue this profession. “I grew up in Tuscaloosa. I attended Central High School. Go Falcons!!! My plan was to graduate in Physical Education and then get a job coaching and teaching Health classes. I have always wanted to work with students, so here I am.”

Tell us about your family. “I have a fourteen-year-old son named LaDarius. He has started his first year of high school this year. I am so proud of him and his accomplishments. I have one sister who currently attends Shelton as a transfer

student. I have a very old dog named BB, which I absolutely love. My mom’s name is Jacqueline and she is a pretty awesome lady.”

What are some of your interests and hobbies? “I enjoy reading and listening to classical, gospel, and jazz music. I love going to Zumba classes and occasionally shooting hoops with my son. I also enjoy playing video games, bowling, cooking, and attending church.”

What has been the most challenging thing about working in the SOAR Institute? “The most challenging thing about working in the SOAR Institute is getting out of my comfort zone. I love to talk to people one on one. I do not necessarily enjoy speaking in front of large crowds, but now I sometimes need to during meetings and with groups on START Up Days. I have to do more public speaking now, and it has been somewhat challenging but enjoyable. I am slowly getting used to being back in front of large groups of people.”

What has been the most rewarding thing about working in SOAR? “The most rewarding thing about working in SOAR is being able to work with an awesome group of people working towards the same goal. Also, being able to help a student achieve their academic goals or become successful is a great reward to me.”

Is there any additional information you would like to share? “I LOVE MY JOB!”



LaTonya Robinson



Shelton State Community College
SOAR Institute
Box 176
9500 Old Greensboro Road
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
205.391.3982 telephone ~ 205.391.5818 fax